

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 9-11 and 18-24 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 18, 19, 23 and 24 have been cancelled.

The Examiner has allowed claims 1-3 and had indicated that claims 9-11 and 20-22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have rewritten claims 9 and 20 in independent form. Therefore, claims 9 and 20, and their dependent claims 10, 11, 21 and 22 should now be in condition for allowance.

Applicants will execute and submit a Supplemental Declaration in the near future to address the issues related to the reissue declaration.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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